

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 84ISLAMA005173

ADPT48
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ACTION RP-10

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-00 EUR-00 DIC-02 COMP-01
EB-08 IO-15 NEA-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SR-06 /OSO W
-----021302 130346Z /65

R 130318Z MAR 84
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3197
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE POUCH
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR POUCH

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DEPT FOR RP/ASIA - BILL HARRIS

DEPT ALSO FOR PASS AID FOR SER/COM

ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 12356. N/A

TAGS: SREF, EAID, AF, PK

SUBJECT: TRUCKS FOR AFGHAN REFUGEE RELIEF;
U.S. AND FRG

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 02721; (B) 83 ISLAMABAD 18861;
1. SUMMARY. IN 1984, FRG WILL PROBABLY DONATE DM 10
MILLION TOWARD PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL MERCEDES TRUCKS
FOR NATIONAL LOGISTICS CELL (NLC) REFUGEE SUPPORT
OPERATIONS. U.S. INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER TRUCKS ARE
REPORTEDLY PERFORMING WELL BUT SUSPENSIONS CONTINUE TO
POSE PROBLEM. IH REGIONAL EXPERT SAYS THERE IS NO
(RPT) NO NEED TO CHANGE IH FRONT AXLES WHEN AND IF
SUSPENSIONS ARE STRENGTHENED. END SUMMARY.
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2. DR. SIEGFRIED GIESA, A GERMAN GOVERNMENT AUTOMOTIVE
ENGINEERING EXPERT, CALLED ON REFCOUNS LAST WEEK.
DR. GIESA HAD BEEN TO QUETTA TO LOOK AT THE 75 SIX-TO-
EIGHT TON CAPACITY MERCEDES TRUCKS THE FRG HAD
DELIVERED TO THE GOP'S NATIONAL LOGISTICS
CELL IN SEPTEMBER OF '82. HE SAID THE GERMAN TRUCKS
ARE WORKING OUT WELL AND ARE BEING USED EXCLUSIVELY
FOR REFUGEE RELIEF PURPOSES.

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3. DR. GIESA WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH ONGOING MAINTENANCE OF THE MERCEDES FLEET. WE TOLD HIM THAT THE UNHCR HAD ALLOTTED FUNDS FOR THE CIVIL CONSTRUCTION OF TWO REPAIR FACILITIES, WHICH ARE NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION, AND THAT WE ENVISAGE PROVIDING THE HARDWARE (REF A), TO EQUIP THEM FOR THE U.S.-DONATED INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER TRUCKS. WE TOLD DR. GIESA THAT WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THE REPAIR FACILITIES ACCOMMODATING GERMAN-DONATED VEHICLES, TO EXTENT U.S. EQUIPMENT IS COMPATIBLE WITH GERMAN TRUCK MAINTENANCE NEEDS, AND ASSUMING THAT SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT UNIQUE TO REPAIR OF GERMAN TRUCKS IS DONATED BY FRG. COMMENT. THIS WOULD MAKE FRG AN OBVIOUS TARGET FOR CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED FOR EXPANDING THE FACILITIES. END COMMENT.

4. DR. GIESA TOLD US THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTRIBUTE DM 10 MILLION IN 1984 IN SUPPORT OF REFUGEE RELIEF LOGISTICS. HE SAID THAT AFTER TALKS WITH SAFRON, THE FRG IS LEANING TOWARD PROVIDING THE AID IN THE FORM OF ADDITIONAL TRUCKS AND ASKED US FOR OUR ADVICE IN THE MATTER. WE SUGGESTED THAT WERE TRUCKS DONATED, SPECIFIC MENTION OF GOP NATIONAL BUDGET PROVISIONS FOR ON-GOING VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AND SPARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PART FINANCING BE MADE IN ANY FRG-GOP PROJECT AGREEMENT. DR. GIESA THANKED US FOR OUR VIEWS AND PROMISED TO KEEP US INFORMED AS TO FUTURE FRG INPUTS.

5. THREE DAYS AFTER DR. GIESA'S CALL WE WERE VISITED BY INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER (IH) REP, PAT JARVIS WHO HAD ALSO JUST COME FROM QUETTA. HE TOLD US THAT OUR U.S.-DONATED IH TRUCKS WERE PERFORMING ADMIRABLY. ONLY TWO OUT OF THE QUETTA FLEET OF FIFTY ARE REPORTEDLY DEADLINED FOR MAINTENANCE (AS OPPOSED TO EIGHT MERCEDES). MR. JARVIS HAD FLOWN TO THE REGION AT THE BEHEST OF IH-PARIS TO INVESTIGATE A RUMORED ENGINE BEARING DEFICIENCY AMONG IH VEHICLES HERE. THE IH REP REPORTED THAT NO SUCH PROBLEM EXISTS AND THAT THE NLC COULD NOT BE MORE PLEASED WITH THE IH TRUCKS' POWER TRAIN. CONTINUED DIFFICULTIES, REF (8), PARAS (4) AND (5), WERE REPORTED WITH VEHICLE SUSPENSION. JARVIS REITERATED IH REQUEST THAT WE FINANCE SUSPENSION MODIFICATIONS, TO INCLUDE FRONT SHOCK ABSORBERS. PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANTLY, MR. JARVIS RELATED THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME INFORMAL EXCHANGE BETWEEN IH AND THE DEPARTMENT REGARDING A NEED TO BEEF-UP TRUCKS' FRONT AXLES ALONG WITH SUSPENSIONS. JARVIS EMPHATICALLY DISMISSED AXLE ISSUE, SAYING THAT U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TRUCK BRAKING

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REGULATIONS MANDATE OVERBUILT FRONT AXLES ON U.S. TRUCKS. HE SAID THE IH VEHICLES DONATED TO PAKISTAN HAVE AXLES THAT CAN WITHSTAND FAR GREATER STRESS (30-40 PERCENT MORE) THAN OVERALL VEHICLE CARGO RATING WOULD INDICATE. HENCE, THERE IS NO (RPT) NO NEED TO SWITCH AXLES WHILE AUGMENTING SUSPENSIONS.

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E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS. SREF, EAID, AF, PK
SUBJECT: TRUCKS FOR AFGHAN REFUGEE RELIEF:

6. COMMENT: WHILE PLEASED TO HEAR GOOD NEWS FROM
MR. JARVIS WHOSE VISITS ARE MUCH APPRECIATED, WE WILL,
OURSELVES, LOOK INTO MAINTENANCE PERFORMANCE FACTORS
OF U.S.-DONATED FLEET DURING ROUTINE VISITS TO QUETTA
AND NOWSHERA. END COMMENT. HINTON

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